

THE BOILERS LET GO WITH DEAFENING ROAR

**Towboat Fred Wilson Blows Up and Kills
Twelve Near Louisville.**

**Others Fatally Injured in Most Deadly Steamboat
Explosion Known in Years.**

THE BIG \$40,000 BOAT IS A TOTAL WRECK

Louisville, Ky., May 26.—With a terrific detonation the boiler of the towboat Fred Wilson exploded early this morning killing 12 or 15 men, injuring 10 and completely wrecking the boat.

The catastrophe occurred just off River View park. The boat, with a large tow of coal barges, was on her way to New Orleans. She is a total wreck, loss estimated at \$40,000.

The dead are:
Captain Joseph Price, Braddock, Pa., married.

Albert Miller, pilot, Pittsburg, Pa., married.

William Quinn, steward, Pittsburg, Pa.

Joseph Warren, colored, Middlesport, Ohio.

William Thornton, colored, Middlesport, Ohio.

Sherman Shively, second engineer.

Patrick blown to pieces, found on coal boat.

Cook unknown; waiter unknown.

Five white deckhands unknown.

The fatally injured are:

Emma Williamson, aged chambermaid, burned.

Willie J. Letterson, deckhand, Wellsburg, W. Va., scalded, will die.

Cliff Johnson, Tyrone, Pa., burned and will die.

The injured:

Wm. Tommons, watchman, head scalded, seriously.

John Miller, deckhand, Pittsburg, Pa., nose broken.

Codley Kitchen, helper, burned.

Charles R. Fadal, pilot, injured about the head.

William Miller, Allegheny, Pa., bruised about the head.

The saved are:

Frank Egan, Allegheny, Pa.

John Bouchet, Allegheny, Pa.

Joe Chadwick, Allegheny, Pa.

Thomas Dinwiddle.

George Morrow, second fireman, Middlesport, Ohio.

Jake Botsell, Pomeroy, Ohio.

Frank Night, Middlesport, Ohio.

Walter Bates, Middlesport, Ohio.

W. J. Gilbreath, Braddock, Pa.

Henry Sax, Mate, Pittsburg, Pa.

The Fred Wilson belonged to the Consolidated Coal Co. of Cincinnati.

The boat was literally blown to pieces and is an absolute loss. That every one of the crew of thirty-one people was not killed is little short of a miracle.

The boilers let loose just as the boat was tying up to the bank. Chief Engineer Louis Walker, of Pittsburg, one of those who escaped, declared that the boilers had plenty of water and he cannot account for the cause of the accident.

Of the dead nine have been found. The others were blown into small pieces and the shattered fragments of flesh and bone are now at the bottom of the Ohio river. The force of the explosion was such that it aroused nearly all of West Louisville. Engineer Lewis Walker told the following story to The Sun's correspondent:

"I went on watch at 8 o'clock this morning. I was blown into the river and that was the first that I knew of the accident. I grabbed a hog chain and in an instant realized that the boat was sinking. I hastened on to the deck roof and found it covered with deckhands. I saw Emma Williams, a chambermaid, fall into the river. Thomas Donovan also fell in. A boat was taken off of the roof and the woman and Donovan were rescued. Charley Nadal, of Louisville a pilot who was at the wheel at the time of the explosion and also picked up."

Captain Nadal who was at the wheel at the time of accident, found himself in the middle of the river under some wreckage. A man was near him and the two clung to floating timbers until the rescuers came. The boat went down in 18 feet of water. She sank almost immediately. A great gap was torn in her side by the force of the explosion and those saved had scarcely time to rush from their berths and plunge into the river before she went down. The Wilson left Pittsburg last Friday with six barges, 12 coal boats and four flats bound for Louisville and arrived here Wednesday night at 11 o'clock. She proceeded on down the river and was tying up when the explosion took place.

The wreck straws the bank for two hundred yards. Coats, bed clothing, etc., are hanging high in the trees. Just after the explosion the voice of Captain Price was heard in his cabin. He and several others are still under the wreck.

BOY TURNS UP

Earl Gierschke, Missing Chicago Boy, Here Today.

He Is Traveling With a Circus and Was Not Kidnapped.

Earl Gierschke, of Chicago, whose brother, Colonel Gierschke, was under arrest here several days ago for sleeping in a box car and whose disappearance from Chicago created quite a sensation, turned up here this morning sound and well.

The boys whereabouts were a mystery in Chicago where his father had a tailor arrested, charging him with abduction. It was learned that Colonel Gierschke was here and a telegram was sent to ascertain if the brother Earl was here. He was not and this added to the confusion. The father finally admitted that he had dreamed the boy was kidnapped and the suspect was released.

The missing boy reported to police headquarters here this morning and stated he had seen the piece published in the papers about him and has written home to apprise them of his whereabouts. He is with the Sells & Downs shows and in good health.

He was greatly surprised when he saw the papers giving accounts of his supposed abduction or murder.

INSPECTING STREETS

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS GOING OVER THIRD STREET BLOCK.

The board of public works and the city engineer are this afternoon going over the block of street just paved by Contractor Ed Terrell, with a view to reporting to the general council on its reception or rejection. It is not given out how they like the work.

STEEL WORKERS

STRIKE AT CAIRO AND DELAY ENLARGEMENT OF BRIDGE.

Cairo, Ill., May 26.—One hundred and fifty steel workers on the bridge over the Mississippi river are on a strike for a nine hour day, and the structure work is at a standstill. The pier work is going on as usual.

YEARS OF TOIL ARE WIPED OUT BY FIRE

Yazoo City, Miss., Completely Destroyed Yesterday.

The Total Loss Will Amount to Fully \$2,000,000, With Partial Insurance.

STARTED FROM A WIRE

Yazoo City, Miss., May 26.—Today 1,000 people are homeless and the city is in ashes as a result of yesterday's fire. The loss will reach \$2,000,000.

Not a business house stands in the city, not a church in which the people can worship, not a lawyer's office, not a hotel. Everything fell before the flames. The most disastrous fire in the history of the state and in many respects the most disastrous in the history of the south for many years, originated at 8:15 a. m. in the two story residence owned by Herman Wise on Mounth street, in the southern portion of the city. How the fire originated is a matter of doubt, but it is supposed to have been caused by defective wiring.

There is a burnt district with black brick walls and chimneys of frame buildings of a mile and an eighth in length and from four to five blocks were built up by years of toil and industry. They were destroyed in several hours.

In this burned district there were about 65 business houses in ruins and about sixty handsome dwellings in ashes. Several thousand men are out of employment and about a thousand are homeless.

From a most careful investigation there is shown to be about a million dollars' insurance on the property. The stock of several of the largest concerns was known to be worth from 75 to eighty thousand dollars, and about 50 per cent insurance was carried on these stocks.

Seven churches were burned, not a whole church left standing. The First Presbyterian, the Catholic, the Methodist, Baptist and Episcopal all went up in the smoke. Two negro churches were burned. The four banks, the Commercial State bank, the Bank of Yazoo City, the Delta Bank and Trust company and the First National bank were burned.

A man by the name of Chambliss, a citizen of Yazoo City, was killed by falling walls, and Mayor Holmes was badly hurt. Tonight he is said to be in a precarious condition. He had been in office but three or four weeks.

Yazoo City, Miss., May 26.—A train load of supplies for the relief of yesterday's fire sufferers arrived today. The city is under martial law and everything possible is being done to relieve the homeless. The loss is still estimated at two millions and insurance adjusters announce that losses be paid as speedily as possible.

LOOKING FOR THIRD

TWO OF THE THREE STEAM-BOAT DISASTERS HAVE NOW OCCURRED.

Two of the three steamboat disasters which river men claim must always follow one another in quick succession have now occurred, and many of the old captains are wondering what will be the third.

For many years it has been a superstition with river men that there are always three river catastrophes to follow one another, and the sinking of the Chittanooga yesterday at Big Chain, and the blowing up of the Fred Wilson near Louisville today, are two of the last series.

TRIAL FOR LUNACY.

Angeline Rice, colored, who was put out of her house by a writ of possession taken out in Justice Young's court and who broke into the house three times and moved back in, will tomorrow morning be tried before Judge William Reed, in circuit court, for lunacy. She is said to be demented.

WEALTHY FARMER CHEATS GALLOWS

Verons Fleener, Under Sentence of Death, Hangs Himself.

He First Put Up His Shirt to Screen Himself From Observation.

W. O. MCGREGOR DIES

Morgantown, Ky., May 26.—Verons Fleener, a wealthy farmer under a death sentence for the murder of his wife, committed suicide in the jail here this morning.

He put his night shirt over the cell door to shield him from passers, and then hanged himself to a window bar with four feet of curtain cord.

W. O. MCGREGOR DEAD.
Benton, Ky., May 26.—W. O. McGregor, of Fristoe, this county, and father of W. U. McGregor, at Benton, died this morning of paralysis. He was 74 and influential.

IS DYING

Mr. J. H. Cosby Hopelessly Ill at Evansville.

His Family Notified—Was Out by D. W. Barnes Here Recently.

Capt. J. H. Fowler this afternoon received a telegram from Capt. Howard, of the Joe Fowler, which is undergoing repairs at Evansville, stating that Mr. J. H. Cosby, carpenter of the boat, was dying in the marine hospital at Evansville from blood poisoning, and to notify his family. Up to 3 o'clock this afternoon none of the family had been located, but will be, a son being employed on one of the docks here.

Mr. Cosby is one of the best known carpenters in Paducah, and has been on the Joe Fowler for some time. About two weeks ago he and D. W. Barnes, another carpenter, had a difficulty at the wharf, in which Mr. Cosby was out in the side and Mr. Barnes was struck on the head. It was thought that neither wound was serious, but when Mr. Cosby got to Evansville on the last trip of the boat, blood poisoning was threatened and he was taken to the marine hospital. He became gradually worse, and began dying today. Mr. Barnes is out on bond on charge of malicious cutting.

JOHN T. PAUL DEAD

FORMER OFFICIAL OF THE I. O. DIES IN ALABAMA.

John T. Paul, formerly a superintendent on the Illinois Central with headquarters at Memphis, died at Huntsville, Ala., Tuesday. He was forced some time ago to give up his position on account of ill health.

COURT AT CLINTON.

Clinton, Ky., May 26.—Will Smith, charged with rape was given 10 years. Fifteen rue bills have been returned. Ed Grimes and Joe Detwiler, the boy tramps who robbed Little's store at Moscow, were given one year.

TODAY'S MARKETS.

(Furnished by Paducah Commission Co., 109 Broadway.)

WHEAT	HIGH	LOW	CLOS.
July.....	86 1/2	85 1/2	86 1/2
Sept.....	86 1/2	85 1/2	86 1/2
CORN			
July.....	48 1/2	47 1/2	47 1/2
Sept.....	48 1/2	47 1/2	47 1/2
OATS			
July.....	31	29 1/2	29 1/2
Sept.....	31	29 1/2	29 1/2
COTTON			
July.....	12 80	12 35	12 35
Aug.....	12 35	12 15	12 15
Sept.....	12 15	12 7 1/2	12 7 1/2
Oct.....	12 7 1/2	12 6 1/2	12 6 1/2
Dec.....	12 6 1/2	12 5 1/2	12 5 1/2
STOCKS			
L. & N.....	40 1/4	40 1/4	40 1/4
Mo. P.....	8 1/4	8 1/4	8 1/4

DRAWING NEARER TO RUSSIAN STRONGHOLD

Japanese Within Ten Miles of Port Arthur This Morning.

Will First Attack Kinchow---Russian Forces Inflict Heavy Losses in Mountain Pass.

JAPAN APPOINTS OFFICERS FOR MANCHURIA

Che Foo, May 26.—Word reached here today that the Japanese are only ten miles from Port Arthur. Heavy firing occurred near Dalney, towards which the Japanese force is marching.

RUSSIANS ABANDONED.
ED KAIPANG.

Tokio, May 26.—It is reported the Russians evacuated their position at Kaipang out twenty miles southeast of New Chwang.

JAPANESE REGIMENT LANDS.

Che Foo, May 26.—A letter from a Japanese correspondent states that a Japanese regiment has landed at Kerr Bay, northeast of Talienwan Bay, on which Dalny is situated, May 9.

CARRIED KIM CHOW.

London, May 26.—The Tokio correspondent of Central News wires that word has been received here that the Japanese stormed and carried Kim Chow, to the rear of Port Arthur today.

APPOINTING OFFICIALS.

Tokio, May 26.—A military administrative commission has been organized to arrange for the administration of territory in Manchuria temporarily occupied by the Japanese. The first batch of officials has been appointed.

INFLECT HEAVY LOSS ON JAPS.

Paris, May 26.—A special edition of the La France prints a message from St. Petersburg stating that the report that General Fok decoyed a force of Japanese into a mountain pass near Feng Huang Cheng, is confirmed. The report says that the Russians with two guns caused heavy Japanese losses. The Russian loss was only one hundred and twenty.

TO ASSAULT KINCHOW.

Tokio, May 26.—Dispatches this morning indicate that an attack by the Japanese on Kinchow, to the rear of Port Arthur is imminent. The Japanese have the most powerful artillery with which to make an attack and are already in position for the onslaught.

Spies have ascertained that the Russian defenses of the town consist of thirty guns and some smaller pieces.

WAR NEWS IN BRIEF.

New York, May 26.—Gen. Kuropatkin in a dispatch to the emperor, stated that the Japanese army had again taken up its advance from Feng Weng Cheng, where 40,000 troops had been concentrated, but later message from Liao Yang, the Russian headquarters, reported the Mikado's soldiers again returning to that town.

Another furious bombardment of Port Arthur by Vice Admiral Togo was un-officially reported, while continued rumors of terrific land battles outside the fortress were sent from various outside points.

From Wagon comes dispatches detailing the Russian movement in north Korea. Cossacks clashed with Korean troops at Ham Heung and altogether the indications were that the Russian descent on that section was in the nature of an important strategical movement.

MURDER OR SUICIDE?

Atlanta, Ga., May 26.—The body of Sophie Klockler, a young woman who disappeared Tuesday was found today in the Water Forks pond. There were signs of a struggle on the bank of the pond. A man's cuff and

watch chain were found near the body and after dragging the pond a man's body was found. Murder or double suicide is suspected.

TO SEE SULTAN

AND OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF AMERICAN CITIZEN.

Gibraltar, May 26.—Mr. Langerman, formerly vice consul at Tangier, has started for there to endeavor to obtain the release of Mr. Perdicaris, the American kidnapped by bandits a week ago. Langerman counts on his personal intimacy with the sultan of Morocco to aid him in obtaining his end.

IS OPPOSITION

TO ORGANIZE UNION WITH THE NORTHERN ASSEMBLY.

Mobile, May 26.—The report of the committee for closer relations with other Presbyterian bodies was the principal business of the general assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States today. There is considerable opposition to organic union with the northern assembly.

MAN ARRESTED

RICHARD QUIGLEY CHARGED WITH KILLING GEORGE H. TAYLOR.

Canton, May 26.—A warrant was sworn out today charging Richard Quigley with the murder of George H. Taylor. Grace Bottorff Taylor, alleged wife of the murdered man, was first charged with the crime but was released Monday.

PARKER AND FRAZIER

INDORSED BY THE DEMOCRATS OF TENNESSEE.

Nashville, Tenn., May 26.—The Democratic convention adjourned last night until today after considerable disorder, and after nominating Governor Frazier to succeed himself, and instructing for Judge Parker, of New York, for president.

NOT GUILTY

TYNER IS ACQUITTED IN A FEW MOMENTS.

Washington, May 26.—James N. Tyner was acquitted 22 minutes after the jury left the courtroom, on a charge of conspiracy with H. J. Barrett to defraud the government. The case had been on trial 19 days.

CIRCUS MAN

ARRESTED ON A WARRANT SWORN OUT BY MR. HENRY BIEDERMAN.

J. H. Downs, one of the proprietors of the circus now here, was warrant today for using insulting language towards Mr. Henry Biederman, who went to the grounds on business.

KILLED A GUARD.

Columbus, O., May 26.—Guard Henry Garhart, who was shot by convict Greene yesterday afternoon, died today.